



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Billing Code 8320-01

[OMB Control No. 2900-0004]

Proposed Information Collection (Application for Dependency and Indemnity Compensation; Death Pension and Accrued Benefits by a Surviving Spouse or Child; Application for Dependency and Indemnity Compensation by a Surviving Spouse or Child-In-Service Death Application for DIC, Death Pension, and or, Accrued Benefits)
Activity: Comment Request

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the Federal Register concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed revision of currently approved collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to this notice. This notice solicits comments for information needed to determine entitlement to dependency and indemnity compensation (DIC), death pension and accrued benefits, and dependency and indemnity compensation by a surviving spouse or child-in-service death.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before [INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information through Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) at www.Regulations.gov or to Nancy J. Kessinger, Veterans Benefits Administration (20M33), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420 or email nancy.kessinger@va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0004" in any correspondence. During the comment period, comments may be viewed online through FDMS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nancy J. Kessinger at (202) 632-8924 or FAX (202) 632-8925.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995 (Public Law 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3501 – 3521), Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. This request for comment is being made pursuant to Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA.

With respect to the following collection of information, VBA invites comments on: (1) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of VBA's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of VBA's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3)

ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology.

Titles:

- a. Application for Dependency and Indemnity Compensation, Death Pension and Accrued Benefits by a Surviving Spouse or Child (Including Death Compensation if Applicable), VA Form 21P-534.
- b. Application for Dependency and Indemnity Compensation by a Surviving Spouse or Child - In-service Death Only, VA Form 21P-543a.
- c. Application for DIC, Death Pension, and or, Accrued Benefits, VA Form 21P-534EZ.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0004.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Abstract:

- a. VA Form 21-534 is used to determine surviving spouse and/or children of veterans entitlement to dependency and indemnity compensation (DIC), death benefits,(including death compensation is applicable), and any accrued benefits not paid to the veteran prior to death.
- b. Military Casualty Assistance Officers complete VA Form 21-534a to assist surviving spouse and/or children of veterans who died on active duty in processing claims for dependency and indemnity compensation benefits. Accrued benefits and death compensation are not payable in claims for DIC.

- c. The VA Form 21P-534EZ is used for the Fully Developed Claims (FDC) program for pension claims.

Affected Public: Individuals or households

Estimated Annual Burden:

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 62,571.

Frequency of Response: One time.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 98,796.

- a. VA Form 21P-534 – 58,918 hours.
- b. VA Form 21P-534a – 1,426 hours.
- c. VA Form 21P-534EZ – 38,452 hours.

Dated: September 19, 2014.

By direction of the Secretary.

Crystal Rennie, Department Clearance Officer,
Department of Veterans Affairs.

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